GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1553
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2016
Price Caps for Orthopaedic Implants
Pal Shri Jagdambika

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC) has recommended price caps for orthopaedic implants and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to place a price cap on implants such as knee and hip implants to make it affordable to a large number of people and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received complaints from patients regarding overcharging by hospitals/doctors for these implants and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there exists a regulatory mechanism for looking into prices of implants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the details of redressal mechanism in place for the people affected by overcharging by hospitals/doctors?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a): The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals got a study conducted for Orthopaedic Implants by the National Health System Resource Centre (NHSRC). NHSRC had inter alia suggested that (i) packaging of implants should ensure unit wise packing, and (ii) the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) be made mandatory on all implant packs.

(b): The Orthopedic implants fall under non-scheduled category under the Drugs Price Control Order, 2013, and as such, no ceiling price has been fixed for them. The MRP in such cases can, however, not be increased by more than 10%.

(c): Health being a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. However, when any such complaint is received, it is passed on to the States concerned.

(d) & (e): As stated in reply to part (b) above, the maximum increase in the MRP cannot be more than 10% in a year in such cases.